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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

96-HOUR REPORT**2 APRIL 2019**

(U) CALIFORNIA**(U) Modesto - Cocaine Found in Cereal Boxes during Traffic Stop**

(U) Jose Cardenas, 45, of Modesto allegedly trafficked cocaine by hiding it in cereal boxes was arrested this week, according to authorities. California Highway Patrol discovered three kilograms of cocaine in cereal boxes after making a vehicle stop around 3 p.m. on Thursday. Cardenas was arrested after an officer performed a traffic stop and a subsequent search revealed three cereal boxes each containing over one kilogram of cocaine. Authorities said that amount of cocaine could be worth an estimated \$120,000.

SOURCE: 29 March 2019, [Merced Sun Star](#)

(U) Sacramento - Restaurant Customers Possibly Affected in Data Breach

(U) Early Enterprises, the owner of Bucca di Beppo and several other restaurants, announced Monday that a data breach may have affected payment card information of guests at their restaurants. The company believes "unauthorized individuals installed malicious software on some point-of-sale systems at a certain number of Earl Enterprises' restaurants." The data breach could have captured credit and debit card numbers, expiration dates, and possibly cardholder names. Customers at Bucca di Beppo's Sacramento and Roseville locations may have been affected between 23 May 2018 and 1 March 2019.

SOURCE: 1 April 2019, [CBS News](#)

(U) Ventura - Officer-Involved shooting at Ventura County Government Center

(U) Ventura Police officials have released new information about Monday morning's shooting at the Ventura County Government Center. A woman who saw the events leading up to the shooting called local news and said a police officer initiated a traffic stop and a man driving the car got out, and very quickly, the situation escalated into a fight between the two men. The woman said she saw the police officer then shoot the man he had pulled over. The sergeant was transported to Ventura County Medical Center with non-life-threatening injuries and the suspect with critical injuries.

SOURCE: 1 April 2019, [KEYT News](#)

(U) SOUTHWEST BORDER**(U) District of Columbia - DHS Orders Border Patrol Agent 'Surge' Amid Migrant Influx**

(U) Washington - DHS Secretary Nielsen ordered the deployment of 750 US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) personnel to the US-Mexico border, she announced Monday. DHS also directed CBP to expand the Migrant Protection Protocols (MPP), a DHS plan to return migrants to Mexico while they wait for a hearing in immigration court. DHS further ordered CBP to plan to expand the MPP plan beyond California and Texas, the locations where it currently operates. In late March, the El Paso Border Patrol sector temporarily shuttered checkpoints on the US side of the border, telling media that "to process and ensure appropriate care for those in custody, resources including personnel have been diverted from other border security priorities."

SOURCE: 1 April 2019, [The Hill](#)

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UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**(U) NATIONAL****(U) District of Columbia - US Measles Cases Surge to Second-Highest Level in nearly Two Decades**

(U) Washington - The number of people sickened by measles in the first three months of this year is more than for all of 2018 — and the second-highest number reported since US health officials declared the highly contagious and sometimes deadly disease “eliminated” in 2000. The upsurge, now at 387 cases, reflects outbreaks that have spread to 15 states, including New York, California, Texas, and Washington, according to figures released Monday by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. That surpasses the 372 reported for all last year. Many of those outbreaks originated after unvaccinated individuals traveled to Europe, the Philippines, and Israel, where the infection is more common, and returned to the United States after contracting the illness.

SOURCE: 1 April 2019, [Washington Post](#)

(U) Florida - \$17 Million of Marijuana Seized at Sea

(U) West Palm Beach - The US Customs and Border Protection seized a drug shipment worth \$17 million in international waters off the coast of Central America recently. A crew on board a P-3 spotted the abandoned panga-style boat by air. A US Coast Guard law enforcement team on a US Navy ship in the area boarded the boat and found 6,100 pounds of marijuana. Typically, most of the illicit traffic in the Eastern Pacific Ocean is smuggling cocaine, but marijuana is also a major source of income for drug trafficking organizations, according to authorities.

SOURCE: 31 March 2019, [CBS News](#)

(U) Kansas - Man Sentenced for Hoax Call that Led to Fatal Police Shooting

(U) Wichita - Tyler R. Barriss, 26, of California was sentenced Friday to 20 years in prison for making bogus emergency calls to authorities across the US, including one that led police to fatally shoot a Kansas man following a dispute between two online players over \$1.50 bet in the "Call of Duty: WWII" video game. The Kansas incident in 2017 drew national attention to "swatting," a form of retaliation used to report false emergency call to get authorities, particularly a SWAT team, to descend on an address. Authorities say an Ohio gamer recruited Barriss to "swat" a Wichita gamer, but that the address they used was old, leading police to Finch, who was not involved in the video game or the dispute.

SOURCE: 29 March 2019, [NBC News](#)

(U) New York - City of Albany Experiences Cyberattack

(U) Albany - Mayor Kathy Sheehan tweeted Saturday that the City of Albany has experienced a ransomware cyberattack. Mike Stamas, an expert at GreyCastle Security, says ransomware is a common exploit for hackers. Basically, it locks down computers, requiring payment to restore access to your network, files, and system information. Ransomware attacks can be instigated from anywhere, and take advantage of vulnerable software, or of a person clicking a link in a phishing email. Stamas said organizations can protect themselves with backups, and layers of security - although some simply pay the ransom. Sheehan said the city is working to determine the extent of the compromise.

SOURCE: 30 March 2019, [CBS News](#)

(U) INTERNATIONAL**(U) China to Close Loophole on Fentanyl**

(U) Beijing - China announced all variants of fentanyl will be treated as controlled substances, after Washington urged Beijing to stop fueling the opioid epidemic in the United States. Authorities in China already regulate 25 variants of fentanyl, a synthetic opioid linked to thousands of drug overdose deaths in the United States. But some manufacturers in China, seeking to evade controls, have introduced slight

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changes to the molecular structure of their drugs, giving them the legal loophole to manufacture and export before the government can assess the products for safety and medical use. China may not be able to enforce the new rules, according to an expert, as Chinese authorities already have problems enforcing existing laws. Official reports show that China does not have enough inspectors for facilities, and law enforcement would have to take a sample from a facility and eventually analyze whether it is a fentanyl-related structure.

SOURCE: 1 April 2019, [NPR](#)

(U) Germany - Police Conduct Major Anti-Terrorism Operation

(U) Berlin - Police are investigating six terror suspects who were allegedly planning an attack. The suspects, who were arrested and later released, are accused of being affiliated with ISIS. German police conducted a series of raids throughout western Germany on Friday and Saturday as part of an anti-terrorism operation, prosecutors said on Saturday. A total of 11 male suspects were arrested as part of the operation. All have since been released after no weapons or explosives were found.

SOURCE: 30 March 2019, [Deutsche Welle](#)

(U) North Korea - North Korea Calls Raid at Its Embassy in Spain a 'Terrorist Attack'

(U) Pyongyang - North Korea said a break-in and robbery at its embassy in Spain last month was "a grave terrorist attack" and a "flagrant violation of international law," calling on Madrid to conduct a thorough and fair investigation of the mysterious incident. North Korea was also closely monitoring reports that the US and an anti-North Korea group had been involved, a spokesman for its Foreign Ministry told the official Korean Central News Agency. The unidentified spokesman's comments were the first official North Korean reaction to the 22 February raid.

SOURCE: 31 March 2019, [New York Times](#)

(U) Tunisia - UN Official Arrested in Anti-Terrorism Probe

(U) Tunis - Tunisian authorities detained a UN official involved in monitoring an international arms embargo on Libya as part of an investigation by an anti-terrorism unit, state news reported on Saturday. It was the first time Tunisia had confirmed the arrest of the official, Tunisian national Moncef Kartas, who a UN spokesman said on Friday had been detained earlier in the week at the Tunis airport despite having diplomatic immunity. A spokesman for a Tunisian anti-terrorism judiciary unit told TAP the detained official had traveled in a private capacity on his Tunisian passport, meaning he was not entitled to diplomatic immunity and could be arrested.

SOURCE: 30 March 2019, [Reuters](#)

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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